

# **Fuel for Thought**

July 2005

The 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland, Ore.

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# Do you have all the Tools You Need?

**By Chief Wayne Firth**  
**939th Maintenance Squadron**

As a supervisor, in any capacity, it's important to remember to set your employees up for success in whatever you have them doing. We all have a wish to meet the goals put before us by the people working above us. In order to do this we need to know what specifically is expected of us. Give us direction, a clear path, and we will do everything we can to reach that goal.

To make these goals easier to reach it's our responsibility to provide all the tools needed to comply with the task we have asked them to do. The tools may range from a simple wrench, encouragement, to advance training. Things like Technical Orders, Air Force and local instructions, and experience can be used to identify the tools needed to meet this goal. If the supervisor has not provided the needed tools, goals may not be reached as quickly as he may like. Without these tools, it may be hard for your employees to succeed.

Follow-up on the tasks you have assigned to see if you have set your employees up for success. As the work is in progress, from time to time we need to follow-up with our employees to see how well the tools we have provided are working and if there are other tools needed to meet the goals we have set. Also, follow-up by listening to your employees, they may have additional tools to succeed. Their experience is a valuable asset that should be used to help them and as their supervisor to succeed.

Provide opportunities for your employees to succeed. An example might be to post a list of additional duties and responsibilities for your work center and ask for volunteers. Make sure to provide them the direction and give them the tools they will need to succeed. Then follow-up, watch them work, look over the program, provide them feedback, and see if they need any other tools to meet the goal.

As supervisors we have a large number of extra duties and responsibilities. Here are a few you would see in the Maintenance Group; Composite Tool Kit program, Bench Stock, Working Stock, Mobility issues, Government Vehicle Licenses, Technical Orders File, Self-Inspection Program, House Keeping, Mentoring pro-

gram, Safety, Training, Documentation for GO-81 and the Aircraft Forms, Special Certification Roster, Cross Utilization Training, Enlisted Performance Reports, Awards and Decorations, and PEP.

If we assign these duties to the people who work for us we have the responsibility to ensure they succeed. So give them the direction, tools and feedback to set them up for success. Don't just let them spend time doing it all on their own. Give them the benefit of your experience—the tools they need.



## Supervisor's Career Counseling Toolbox

### Forms

AF Form 77 - Supplemental Evaluation Sheet.  
AF Form 707a and 707b-OPRs  
AF Form 724a and 724b-Performance Feedback for Officers  
AF Form 910 & AF Form 911 - EPRs

AF Form 931 & AF Form 932 - Performance Feedback for enlisted grades

### Air Force Publications

AFI 36-401 - Managing the Civilian Performance Program

AFMAN 36-606, Vol2 Civilian Career Planning

AFI 36-1001 - Managing the Civilian Performance Program

AFI 36-2406 - Officer & Enlisted Evaluation System

AFI 36-2611 - Officer Professional Development

AFI 36-3401 - Air Force Mentoring

### Other Publications

In-depth review by career field

Enlisted Evaluations Guide - Guide to writing enlisted evaluations

Officer Evaluations Guide - Guide to writing officer evaluations

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afretention/SupervisorInfo/Pages/Supervising.htm>

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Senior Airman Travis Carter

### Cover Photo

Senior Airman Robert Ostrander, 64th Air Refueling Squadron boom operator prepares to refuel one of four F-15s from the 142nd Fighter Wing (ANG) here during an Employer Support for the

Guard and Reserve Orientation flight.

Photo by Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny

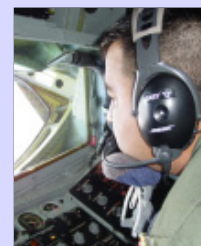




Photo By Maj. James Wilson

*(Left) Col. William Flanigan, 939th Air Refueling Wing commander, Chief Master Sgt. Jack Winsett, AFRC command chief master sergeant, and Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Mitchell, 4th AF command chief master sergeant, observe the 939th ARW's first noncommissioned and senior noncommissioned officer induction ceremony July 11. While at Portland, the command chiefs visited workcenters and talked about issues concerning reservists here.*

# Reserve's top enlisted members visit 939th

**By Maj. James R. Wilson**  
**939th ARW Public Affairs Office**

Thank you. You're doing great work. Stay the course. That was the message delivered by the top enlisted members of 4th Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command during a visit to the 939th Air Refueling Wing July 8-10.

"We came to visit the members of the 939th—to see what they're doing and to thank them," said Chief Master Sgt. Jack Winsett, AFRC command chief master sergeant. The chiefs toured various work centers during their visit, talked with members of the 939th and even offered congratulatory remarks following an enlisted recognition ceremony. It didn't take long for either of the chiefs to ascertain the topic that was first and foremost on the minds of Reservists at Portland.

"Everyone is understandably concerned about [Base Realignment and Closure]," said Chief Master Sgt. Kenneth Mitchell, 4th AF command chief master sergeant. "Right now, we have the same information at the Numbered Air Force as the members received recently at the unit level."

"But I want everyone at Portland to know that [Maj. Gen. Robert Duignan, 4th AF commander] is very concerned about each of your futures."

If past history is any indication, the members are in good hands regardless of the outcome of realignment and closure proceedings.

"If you look back at previous rounds of BRAC, you will see the Reserve Command has always taken care of those members affected by closure or realignment actions," said Chief Winsett. "The command will again work hard to ensure that those members who desire employment are afforded new opportunities."

The proposal to realign the mission of the 939th will not be official until this fall—after the BRAC commission has vali-

dated recommendations and the President and Congress has approved.

The chiefs encouraged members to begin preparing now for the future. Some of those preparations include continuing with upgrade training, completing Professional Military Education and Career Development Courses while taking care of the mission today.

"It's extremely important to stay mission focused," said Chief Winsett. "Continue doing those things that you know need to be done as reservists in the 939th. Lt. Gen. Bradley [Air Force Reserve commander] and Maj. Gen. Tanzi [Air Force Reserve vice commander] will explore every avenue available to ensure members have the opportunity to continue serving our country." The 939th's history of contributions to the warfighter was only reinforced as both chiefs made the rounds throughout the wing and during their discussions with unit members.

"This unit had five years to complete a change in missions and weapons systems and they did it in two years," said Chief Master Sgt. Mitchell. "That's incredibly impressive and a tribute to the caliber of people in this wing."

"We as a nation are at war, and that is one of the reasons we have had a shortage of funds, resulting in the cancellation or scaled back significantly of conferences, advanced schools and off station annual tour. We're doing the best we can to meet the needs of the wings."

In the meantime, "thank you for dedicating your lives to protecting our country by being operationally ready and physically fit to employ air power anywhere in the world." Chief Mitchell offered his thanks for such unyielding dedication and vowed to provide the support from the Numbered Air Force to accommodate the needs of Portland's reservists.

"From the bottom of my heart, I'm truly honored to serve with you," said Chief Mitchell.



Photos and Illustration by Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny

*Before receiving his EMT recertification, Senior Airman Dustin Sandquist, 939th MDS medical technician evaluates a simulated trauma patient during a training scenario similar to the one he will have to successfully manage before receiving his EMT certification.*

## EMT instructors save time, money, and lives

When 939th medical technicians are trained here by local instructors

**By Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny  
939th ARW Public Affairs Office**

The 939th Medical Squadron held an Emergency Medical Technician recertification course here June 13-16 where 13 medical technicians used their annual tour to become current in their emergency medical skills.

Every two years, EMTs must recertify their skills by attending a recertification course where they receive training and are tested with skill labs and a written examination.

"EMT's learn vital skills necessary to treat numerous medical and trauma scenarios to ensure their ability to deliver proper medical care to our beneficiary population and the community," said Tech. Sgt. Tammy Wagendorf, EMT refresher course instructor from the 62nd Medical Group at McChord AFB, Wash. Air Force EMTs are required to maintain the same standards of certifications as the rest of the nation and medical technicians are not able to work without it. Not being certified impacts the whole wing mission.

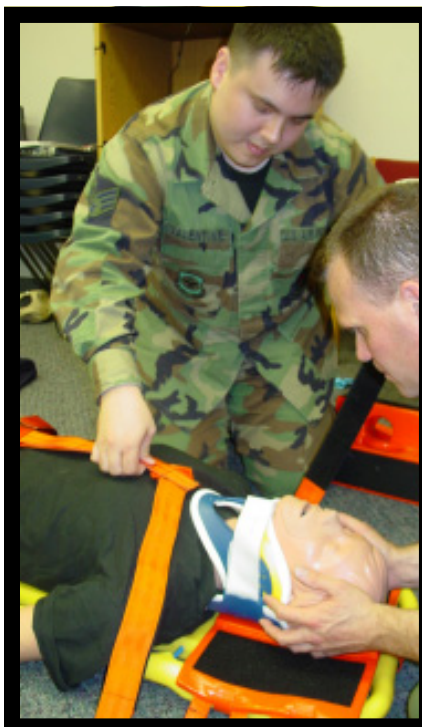
In the past, 939th MDS technicians would go on a temporary duty assignment (TDY) to other locations nationwide to attend this required recertification course. This process took months of

planning and coordinating to find an available course and then when a course was found the squadron paid the cost to send the member to another location, said Senior Master Sgt. Dianna Cox, 939th MDS superintendent of nursing services and aerospace medicine.

To alleviate this process and cost as well as to keep our medical force current, the 939th MDS hosted a two week EMT instructor course in December 2004 where 13 active duty medical technicians and two 939th MDS medical technicians were certified as instructors. Our instructors are medical technicians Tech. Sgt. James Park and Staff Sgt. Bobbi Kennedy. One of the active duty instructor students from McChord AFB, Wash. who attended the December class here, Tech. Sgt. Tammy Wagendorf, 62nd Medical Group noncommissioned officer in charge of group education, was also an instructor for this course.

"We are so very fortunate to have Tech. Sgt. Wagendorf here to co-instruct this course," said Sergeant Cox. "Due to the 6:1 ratio of students to instructors, we wouldn't be able to train all of our technicians without her help. Her commander, Lt. Col. Michael Skidmore was very generous to lend her to us during a very busy time at McChord. We are grateful to him."

In addition to the EMT course, Sergeant Wagendorf trained medical technicians on advanced immunizations while here. She had the added surprise of finding out she was promoted to master sergeant. during class one day" added Sergeant Cox. "With Sergeant Wagendorf teaching two separate courses in five days we are really getting the full bang for our buck."



*Senior Airman Carl Valentine , 939th Medical Squadron medical technician (center) stabilizes the c-spine while he practices a Long Spine Board patient transport for his emergency medical technician certification. The Long Board Spine transport technique is used when a patient is suspected of having a spinal injury.*

This was the first time the squadron has had an EMT refresher course at Portland.

"Being a reservist and only working in the medical field one weekend a month, it is hard to stay proficient at performing certain assessments and procedures," said Senior Airman Dustin Sandquist 939th MDS medical technician and EMT refresher course student. "It is always beneficial to me to refresh my EMT skills and knowledge, that way in case of an actually emergency my confidence is a lot

higher, and I can get out there and get the job done.”

“I think I speak for all of us here at the medical squadron when I say Tech. Sgt. Wagendorf did an outstanding job, and we really appreciate her taking time out of her busy schedule to help out,” Airman Sandquist continued.

This was also Sergeants Kennedy and Park’s first time instructing an EMT refresher course.

“They didn’t make that very obvious,” said Airman Sandquist.

“They conducted the class in a very professional way, had a very good knowledge of what they were teaching, and still at the same time kept the class interesting.”

“I enjoy being an instructor and seeing the positive impact we make from the start of class to the end where our efforts show in the students success in their skill evaluations and written test,” said Sergeant Kennedy.

Many of the medical technicians at the 939<sup>th</sup> MDS are also college students, and their school schedules were taken into account when the course was scheduled said Sergeant Cox.

“I really enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know the newer people in our unit,” said Airman Sandquist. “It was also nice to have the course at home station rather than having to go TDY for a week.”

Along with this course, EMTs must also complete 48 hours of continuing education. Formerly the 939<sup>th</sup> MDS provided continuing education training during the unit training assemblies. Obtaining all the CEU training required during the UTA sometimes proved to be a difficult task when other requirement took precedence. Now through distance learning courses available

online with the Swank healthcare continuing education program, Air Force medical technician can stay current with their CEU anytime.

“This program allows each person to go online and take a live course (you watch a lecture and take a test at the end) and then get credit towards your CEU,” said Sergeant Cox.

“It’s all approved by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians which is a big deal since all CEU must be approved first to get the credit.”

After completing the EMT recertification course and completing 48 hours of continuing education, the EMTs can maintain their state and NREMT certifications.

**“They didn’t make that very obvious. They conducted the class in a very professional way, had a very good knowledge of what they were teaching, and still at the same time kept the class interesting.”**

**Senior Airman  
Dustin Sandquist**



- 1.DO YOU KNOW YOUR WING GROUND SAFETY MANAGER?**
- 2.DO YOU KNOW YOUR GROUP OR SQUADRON SAFETY REPRESENTATIVE (USR)?**
- 3.DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GET SAFETY INFORMATION?**

**Wing Safety Manager is Master Sgt. Michael Clarke. The Wing Safety Office is located in the 83<sup>rd</sup> APS building 355 . Phone number is 5-4205.**

**Number two is available by going to the Wing Safety Website at <https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/939arw/wing>**

**Number three**

**go find your safety board in your building, can’t find it ask your supervisor, still can’t find it, let me know. You can find lots of information on the Safety Website too! Take the time and take a look.**

## **Air Force leaders send Independence Day message**

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The following is an Independence Day message from Michael L. Dominguez, acting Secretary of the Air Force, and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

“This July 4th, we celebrate our nation’s 229th year of independence. In those 229 years, the United States has embodied the principles of democracy and presented freedom’s virtues for countless nations and people.

“Our road to democracy began with the original 13 colonies and hasn’t always been easy. The United States has fought for her freedom and ideals whenever and wherever needed. We continue to do so today, with Airmen deployed and engaged in the global war on terrorism.

“As you celebrate our independence this year, keep those who are serving far away from home, and their families, in your thoughts and prayers. Remember their sacrifices and the sacrifices of courageous patriots who came before them.

“You, America’s Airmen, represent the very best we have to offer. Citizens of this nation and people of the world look to you as defenders of freedom. We couldn’t be more proud of your strength and unity, and we thank you and your families for your selfless service. Have a safe and happy 4th of July!”



Photo by Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny

*Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Hart a 30-year motorcycling veteran always wears his personal protective gear when he rides his Air Force Blue Harley-Davidson 1200. Along with PPE, he carries saddle bags with water, a cell phone, a basic tool bag, reflective equipment and rain gear.*

## Air Force focuses on Motorcycle Mentoring during the 101 Critical Days of Summer

**By Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny  
939th ARW Public Affairs Office**

July 15th marks the half way point in the Air Force's 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign. While Airmen and their families enjoy the warm sunny summer days, they are reminded to be ever vigilant of safety when enjoying summer activities.

With the good weather and longer summer days, some Airman will increase their motorcycle riding.

In April, before the safety campaign began, Andrews air force base, Md. held their inaugural Air Force Motorcycle Safety Forum that emphasized safe riding to save lives and encouraged the motorcycle mentoring concept called for by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper.

Air Force motorcycle fatalities statistics show — 20 deaths in fiscal 2002 and 24 deaths in fiscal 2003. According to an Armed Forces News article, Air Force leaders have begun a crusade to bring motorcycle safety awareness into sharp focus at all organiza-

tional level. The name of this crusade: The Motorcycle Mentorship Program.

According to Air Force Instruction 91-207, all Air Force military personnel who operate a motorcycle, on or off duty, on or off a Department of Defense installation, and regardless of the member's decision to register their vehicle on a DoD installation, are required to attend an approved motorcycle rider safety course.

The Portland International Air Base does not provide motorcycle safety courses here. Since the safety course is required before riding a motorcycle on bases, the base has provided information about Team Oregon an organization that provides motorcycle safety courses for beginning riders who want to get a license and intermediate and advance riders who want to increase their riding skills in the pass and identification lobby in building 130.

DoD requires motorcycle riders to wear a helmet, gloves, long shirt and pants, boots, eye protection, on or off the military installation. Although the cost (\$95) of the motorcycle rider's safety course can be reimbursed with a Standard Form 1164, the cost of the proper personal protective equipment will continue to pay for itself.

These are just the minimum personal protection equipment items as Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Hart, 83<sup>rd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron first sergeant who borrowed a full face helmet and road from Albany, Ore. to Portland can tell you.

"It was amazing how much debris got kicked up on the road. And it hit me—it hit me in the face and in the chest, said Sergeant Hart motorcycle rider of 30 years. "Even though I had my jacket on I could still feel it. It felt like bee stings and even my sunglasses were pitted from the flying debris. Now for safety, I put a fairing (windshield) on the bike. And I wear a full face helmet with a visor for safety. That way, I'm not trying to rub something out of my eye while I'm driving, and lose control of the bike, and hit something."

The equipment isn't for the look. It's for safety.

"I don't care what it looks like," said Sergeant Hart. "You know what, if you've got time to look at it and laugh, I know at least you're watching me, and I'm okay with that."

Wearing brightly colored or reflective clothing might make it easier for drivers to see you especially when it gets dark. But if the driver can't see you, let them hear you—it may give you a better chance of avoiding an accident.

"When I bought my bike, one thing I said was "I wasn't going to put obnoxious pipes on my bike" it was attention grabbing and I didn't like that," said Sergeant Hart. "But the first couple of days of riding around, I had some close calls."

"Other drivers couldn't see me because of the dark colored leather," he said. Some of the guys I had talked to about the bike said the louder the pipes are the more likely people are going to hear you when you get into intersections, on the freeway, and in their blind spots. On the road, that's the one spot I really pay attention to. I want them to see me, and if they can't see me—I want them to hear me."

"After I put the Screaming Eagle IIs pipes on my bike, I left the shop and I was in a situation in an intersection where a driver couldn't see me. But because I throttled it they could hear me, and they stopped before they saw me as I rounded the corner."

"It's a reassuring feeling when the driver or the passengers

**Cont on page 7**

turns around to look because they heard the bike,” Sergeant Hart added.

People who ride motorcycles should take a more offensive posture and be more pro-active while they are driving. “I relax when I ride, but I’m also looking for all the hazards,” said Sergeant Hart. “Blind spots—when you’re driving in a car you might not see a motorcycle in your blind spot; the motorcyclist needs to be aware of these spots. I need to be visual because they need to see me. I make it a point to always be where they can see me.”

“I’m always thinking of the dangers ahead,” continued Sergeant Hart. “When I’m riding, and I see a log truck and a gravel truck up a head of me, I think, there’s probably a pretty good chance that something is going to fall off of one of those trucks, so then I realize I need more distance. I always side on the side of caution. When I was younger, speed was it, but as I’ve gotten older I’ve learned that riding safely is more important because I want to enjoy the ride and I want to live. Also, on a bike I can stop faster than a car or truck, so I need to be cognizant of who is on the road with me and how fast they can stop.”

Having the right bike is also a key factor of motorcycle safety. If you take this Team Oregon course and get a license, go rent some bikes and then figure out what bike is right for you suggests Sergeant Hart.

“If you take a person who has never ridden a bike before and you put them on 1200 or an 1800 that’s just disaster waiting to happen,” said Sergeant Hart. “Most bike shops will rent bikes. Take the time to try different bikes. Look at what kind of riding you’re going to do when deciding what kind of bike you want. Ask an experienced rider for help and take a friend along with you when you go on rides.”

“I relax when I ride, but I’m also looking for all the hazards. Blind spots—when you’re driving in a car you might not see a motorcycle...”

Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Hart

“Don’t get caught up in the hype that bigger is better because it’s not,” added Sergeant Hart. “It’s a good feeling when you can put both feet solidly on ground when you’re holding a bike up at an intersection. My bikes not the biggest but that’s okay its just right in the middle and something I feel comfortable with.”

Sergeant Hart an experienced motorcycle rider says, when you first start riding take someone with you when you go for a ride.

“Be honest,” said Sergeant Hart. “Tell them, I’m not an experienced rider and ask them if they would mind going for a ride with you. Let a friend help you. Humble yourself and ride with an experienced rider on different types of roads.”

“It’s important to have additional skills to keep you safe while you’re riding. Keep taking the courses intermediate, and advance. Keep taking the courses and never assume you know it all. There is no forgiveness when riding—it’s long term—it’s permanent.”

## Base Realignment and Closure timeline

**BY Sept. 8, 2005**

BRAC commission must forward its report to the President.

**BY Sept. 23, 2005**

The President will accept or reject the recommendations on an all or nothing basis and forward the recommendations to Congress.

**45 Legislative Days**

Once the President forwards the recommendations to Congress, Congress will have 45 legislative days to enact a joint resolution rejecting all the recommendations or they become binding on the department.

**Sep 2007(Initiation NLT)-Sep 2011(Completion NLT)**

Under the BRAC law, actions to close or realign a base **must be initiated** within two years of the date the President transmits the BRAC commission’s recommendations report to Congress, and **must be completed** within six years of that same date.

## 939th ARW BRAC Seminars

BRAC Seminar #1 sessions seminar slides are posted on the civilian personnel web page under the BRAC heading [https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/939arw/wing%20staff%20offices/civ\\_pers/default.htm](https://wwwmil.afrc.af.mil/939arw/wing%20staff%20offices/civ_pers/default.htm)

Seminars #2 and #3 will be held in July and some spaces are still available if you have not registered yet.

**Seminar #2** covers a basic understanding of Reduction In Force and Transfer of Function rules and how various priority placement programs work.

**Seminar #3** covers a basic understanding of Voluntary Separation Incentives, Voluntary Early Retirement, Severance Pay, unemployment, retirement and employee benefits.

Please contact Mali Viste or Tiffany Sevier via email to register.

### BRAC Websites

Air Force Reserve BRAC website: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/BRAC-FAQ.htm>

Air Force BRAC website <http://www.issues.af.mil/brac.htm>

Defense Department: <http://www.defenselink.mil/brac>

BRAC Commission: <http://www.brac.gov>

Sen. Gordon Smith: <http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith/webform.htm>

Sen. Ron Wyden: <http://wyden.senate.gov/contact>

Cong. Earl Blumenauer: <http://blumenauer.hous.gov/about/Contacts.shtml>

## Family Day, Sept. 10

The 939th Air Refueling Wing's Family Appreciation Day is a great time for your Reserve Family to say "thanks for your support" while enjoying an afternoon of fun and games with your family. Those interested in helping with the event can call Lt. Col Dana Difford at 503-335-4690.

## World War II 60th Anniversary celebration at the Pearson Air Museum, Aug 26-28

Vintage Aircraft fly-in, USO style hanger dance, fireworks, mess style pancake breakfast with spam are just some of the dozens of activities planned at this event "To Honor Those Who Served." For more information, visit the website at <http://www.americassalute.org>. Members interesting in volunteering can call (360) 992-1825.

## DOD LAUNCHES SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION WEB SITE

Servicemembers who are victims of sexual assault or who need information on the Defense Department policy on preventing sexual assaults can find the information at a new Web site launched by Joint Task Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response.

The designers of the new site, which recently went live, had to name the site with the initials of the organization — [sapr.mil](http://sapr.mil) — rather than something like "sexualassault.mil" because too many firewalls would block out a request under that name.

If a commander or a first sergeant has questions, this site should provide the answers, but if not, they can send an e-mail via the site to a Joint Task Force member.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news>.

## Air Force Launches "AF eMail"

The Air Force began the first phase of a new e-mail system May 6 that will improve communication for Airmen worldwide.

AF eMail (aka eMail-for-life) is a singel, static email address that will not change during the career of an Airman or Air Force civilian employee. The current email system, rapid mobility of the force and frequent assignments and career development opportunities outside the Air Force can make it difficult for Airmen to communicate.

## NEWS

## ARPC ON-LINE SERVICE

Last year Air Reserve Personnel Center customers used a telephone or e-mail to request copies of a performance report, update their mailing address or replace a lost record. Now they can go on-line at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/> to ask for the same thing from the Air Force Reserve Contact Center in Denver. The Web-based service directs the customers to input necessary information, so customer service representatives have everything they need to serve the customer. "We used to use e-mail, but you'd be going back and forth with the customer to make sure you had all their information," said Maj. Doug Ottinger, deputy director of the center's Personnel Delivery Service. "With Web requests it guides customers through the process, provides customers immediate confirmation that we received their requests via e-mail and automatically assigns an issue management number for their reference and the customer service representatives' reference."

FY 06 UTA		
A	B	304th RQS
Oct. 1-2	Oct 15-16	Oct 1-2
Nov 5-6	Nov 19-20	Nov. 5-6
Dec. 3-4	Dec. 10-11	Dec. 3-4
Jan. 7-8	Jan. 21-22	Jan. 7-8
Jan. 28-29	Feb. 11-12	Feb. 11-12
Mar. 4-5	Mar. 11-12	Mar. 4-5
May 6-7	May 20-21	May 6-7
Jun. 3-4	Jun. 10-11	Jun. 3-4
Jul. 8-9	Jul. 15-16	Jul.8-9
Aug. 5-6	Aug. 12-13	Aug. 5-6
Sep. 9-10	Sep. 16-17	Sep. 9-10

## ONE STOP FOR TRICARE

The Air Force Reserve Contact Center in Denver is the sole point of contact for Air Force reservists to enroll in Tricare Reserve Select. This is the first time the Air Reserve Personnel Center has been able to provide a service to all reservists under the Air Force Personnel Service Delivery Transformation Shared Services Organization model, a centralized personnel service. The Fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act established Tricare Reserve Select for reservists who served on active duty in support of a contingency anytime since Sept. 11, 2001. The Tricare Web site — [www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect) — has further details.

## DoD civilians encouraged to take NSPS survey

AMC Public Affairs

Department of Defense officials are encouraging DOD civilian employees to take a new National Security Personnel System Factor Survey.

In a recent memorandum to DOD civilian employees, Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England said the survey will help NSPS officials understand specific job requirements and ensure those requirements are accurately represented in the new system. The survey is available online at <http://pfsurvey.net/nsps> from July 6-20.

Responses are strictly confidential and no individual respondent will be identified and no individual data reported. However, the analyzed results will be made available. Secretary England said although the survey is voluntary, it is vital to the success of NSPS. "I thank you for your feedback and participation in the NSPS design process thus far, [but] we still need your help," he said.

According to the memorandum, a future survey will address performance factors for federal Wage System employees and others. NSPS is a new civilian human resources management system designed to help the Defense Department better support its critical national security mission. A cornerstone of NSPS is a new performance management system that will foster a performance-oriented environment that more fully rewards and recognizes performance and contributions.

## Defense Department to Resume Anthrax Vaccinations

The Department of Defense will resume its Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program as a result of a memorandum signed April 29. The memorandum allows military commanders to resume the vaccination program with the emergency use authorization conditions issued by the Food and Drug Administration on Jan 27, 2005. The program requires commanders to follow emergency use authorization conditions, providing members of the armed service both education on the program and an option to refuse the vaccination without penalty.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news>.

# Life insurance benefits gain increased emphasis

WASHINGTON – Air Force Reserve Command senior leaders want reservists to know about the importance of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

A recent tragedy involving a reservist who declined SGLI coverage prompted a call for this benefit to receive more emphasis. In addition to requiring reservists to report to their military personnel flight to decline coverage in person, command officials are looking at adding squadron-level counseling by the first sergeant or commander.

This increased concern comes on the heels of legislation to increase the maximum SGLI coverage from \$250,000 to \$400,000 and provides payouts of up to \$100,000 for people with traumatic injuries.

In a new twist introduced through the legislation, troops with dependents must get their spouse's approval to purchase less than the full amount of SGLI coverage. In the case of people who are not married, the designated beneficiary will receive notice when the person purchases less than the maximum coverage.

Defense and Veteran Affairs officials are working on the details of the expanded benefits.

The increased SGLI coverage will start Sept. 1, and the so-called "traumatic SGLI" benefit will begin Dec. 1. The legislation directs that both benefits will be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, said Stephen Wurtz, the VA's deputy assistant director for insurance.

Traumatic SGLI benefits will be retroactive for troops who have lost limbs, eyesight or speech or received other traumatic injuries as a direct results of injuries received during Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom. The benefit does not apply to people suffering from disease.

The retroactive coverage increase is payable as a result of deaths in either operation, or under other conditions prescribed by the secretary of defense, Mr. Wurtz said.

People enrolled in the SGLI program will notice an increase in their premiums when the increases take effect. The traumatic SGLI benefit will be rolled into the basic SGLI program and will likely cost about \$1 a month, Mr. Wurtz said.

Troops opting for maximum SGLI coverage – \$400,000 vs. the current \$250,000 – will see their monthly premiums increase from \$16.25 to \$26, Mr. Wurtz said. This is based on the rate of 6.5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance coverage.

SGLI coverage is currently available in \$10,000 increments, but as of Sept. 1, the increments will increase to \$50,000.

Because the rates have not changed, people who retain \$250,000 or less coverage will see no increase in their premiums, Mr. Wurtz said, except for the \$1 "traumatic SGLI" premium.

While these expanded benefits will be provided retroactively, affected people won't be charged retroactive payments, he said. DOD will absorb that cost.

The new traumatic SGLI benefit is designed to provide "a quick infusion of cash" for cash-strapped families of troops recuperating from traumatic injuries received in the line of duty, Mr. Wurtz said.

Compensation will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000, and is designed to help families of severely wounded troops leave their homes and jobs to be with their loved one during recovery. "These families incur a lot of expenses, and this is designed to help them financially," Mr. Wurtz said.

VA staff members will consult with DOD to write regulations that will put the new SGLI benefits into effect.

"Lots and lots of details have to be worked out," Mr. Wurtz said. coverage, to ensure beneficiaries know when an individual turns down the maximum and to help service members who sustain traumatic war injuries.

The \$82 billion supplemental legislation signed into law by President Bush May 11 raises

Among outstanding issues is the fact that the expanded SGLI coverage is part of the supplemental legislation package that funds operations only through Sept. 30. That's 30 days after the new SGLI limit takes effect and two months before the traumatic SGLI benefit begins.

Mr. Wurtz said the VA is confident Congress will resolve this issue before there's any lapse in coverage.

The VA will continue to oversee and control the SGLI program. (AFRC News Service from American Forces Press Service)

## SECAF confirms commitment to religious respect

Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael L. Dominguez said that the Air Force remains "deeply involved" in its commitment to ensure spiritual values of all people are respected at the U.S. Air Force Academy and throughout the Air Force.

Air Force leaders are focused on religious-respect issues at the Air Force Academy, he said. When these issues became a matter of concern, academy leaders reported them up the chain of command, to the school's Board of Visitors and to the public.

In dealing with the matter, the Secretary sent a task force to the academy to assess areas ranging from Air Force policy and guidance on the subject of religious tolerance to practices by the academy chain of command that either enhance or detract from a climate that respects the "free exercise of religion" and the

"establishment clauses" of the First Amendment.

In addition, the Air Force sent a team to the academy in December led by the deputy assistant secretary for equal opportunity and a former national director of the American Jewish Committee. The team was dispatched to provide an initial assessment and advice to academy leaders.

That team's feedback resulted in mandatory training seminars, called Respecting the Spiritual Values of all People, now conducted for cadets, staff members and faculty that address the Air Force's diversity and the need to respect others, regardless of belief.

Mr. Dominguez said he "looked forward to the task force's report in the near future" and that he will "continue to provide support to the Air Force Academy, one of our nation's pre-eminent institutions, as we work through this issue in a very open and public fashion."

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Civilian

## Welcome

Roger Gallet	939th OG
Kelly Buck	939th OSF
Grant Dysle	939th OSF
Mike Dean	939th MSS
Sarah Weaver	939th MSS
Gabriel Gandia, Jr.	939th MSS
Charles Miller	939th MSS

## Promotions

Brandon Height	939th SVF
Patrick LaValley	939th SVF

## Awards

### Notable Achievement Award

Dottie Johnson	939th ARW
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### Military

## Welcome

### 939th AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Harold Ward  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jason Baggett  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Kevin Smith  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Naomi Warner  
**939th CES**  
Senior Airman Heather Leonnig  
**939th LRS**  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ashley Graves  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Curtis Maltman  
**939th MDS**  
Senior Airman Stephan Brady  
**939th MXS**  
Senior Airman Benjamin Hart  
Senior Airman James Thompson  
Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Deidre Barry  
**939th SVF**  
Staff Sgt. Dawn Johnson  
**64th ARS**  
Capt. Christopher Lantagne  
**83rd APS**  
Senior Airman Kenneth Bingham  
**304th RQS**  
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Brock  
**939th MDS**  
Capt. Franklin Young

## Awards

### Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Randall Ogden	939th ARW
Chief Master Sgt. Arthur Paul	83rd APS
Senior Master Sgt. Robert Pfenning	939th OSF
Master Sgt. Gerald Case	939th OSF
Master Sgt. David Craig	939th CF
Master Sgt. Justin Mills	939th MXS

### Commendation Medal

Master Sgt. Antonello	939th CF
Tech. Sgt. Daril Anthes	64th ARS
Staff Sgt. Lucas Hernandez	939th OSF
Staff Sgt. Chester O'Leary	939th OSF

## Retirements

Col. Randall Schultz-Rathbun	939 ARW
CMSgt Arthur Paul	83 APS

## Graduates

Community College of the  
Air Force

### **Master Sgt. Ian Bradford** **939th CES**

Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Information Management**

### **Master Sgt. Michael Sapp** **939th CES**

Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Construction Technology**  
Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Logistics**

### **Master Sgt. Eric Thomas** **939th MDS**

Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Health Care Management**

### **Tech. Sgt. Patrick Peralta** **939th ARW**

Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Financial Management**

### **Senior Airman Jennifer Hall** **83rd APS**

Associate of Applied Science degree  
**Transportation**

## Promotions

### **CORRECTION**

James Gross 939th MXS was promoted effective 1 May 05 to the grade of Senior Master Sergeant.

## NCO/SNOC Induction Ceremony

*The Wing held a  
NCO/SNCO Induction Ceremony  
and  
Chiefs Award presentation  
on  
Sunday July 10, 2005  
at 1000  
in Bldg 310 (Hangar)*

## Noncommissioned Officers

Staff Sgt. Donald Argo	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Michael Blessing Jr.	939AMXS
Staff Sgt. Sara Beldin	939 OSF
Staff Sgt. Ryan Congdon	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Corey	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Brian Eagleheart	939 OSF
Staff Sgt. Tenda Forcht	939 MXG
Staff Sgt. Michael Gonzales	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Lucas Hernandez	939 OSF
Staff Sgt. Robert Mayner	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Nicole McInturff	939 CF
Staff Sgt. Gregory Rachel	939 MXS
Staff Sgt. Jason Reininger	939 MDS
Staff Sgt. Robert Rud	83 APS
Staff Sgt. Dustin Sandquist	939 MDS
Staff Sgt. Matthew Stark	939 AMXS
Staff Sgt. Sarah Temple	83 APS

## Senior

## Noncommissioned Officers

Master Sgt. Klaus Bernkopf	939 MSG
Master Sgt. Joseph Huntington	939 MXS
Master Sgt. Cari Lennon	939 MDS
Master Sgt. Russell Wiseman	83 APS
Master Sgt. Michael Gardner	939 CF

## CONGRATULATIONS

### *939th ARW Family Support Layette Program*



Photos by Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny

Tech. Sgt. Neal Therrien, 939th Mission Support Group workgroup manager receives a Layette basket for his newborn baby from Col. Elaine Barron, 939th Mission Support Group commander. The basket is filled with gifts and supplies for his 7 lbs. 15 oz. baby girl who was born July 3rd.



Senior Airman Ashley Fowler, 939th Communications Flight, information manager receives a Layette Basket for her expected baby from Maj. Malinda Beggs, 939th CF commander.

The Layette program is supported through generous contributions from wing organizations, individuals, and the community. The baskets help the wing to recognize and congratulate our new parents like Maj. James Wilson and his 8 lb 10 oz. baby girl born June 23.



After honorably serving his country for more than 29 years, Master Sgt. Joseph Alfeche, 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, aircraft communications and navigation technician (left) reenlists for two years Jun 23. Lt. Col. Dana Difford, 939th Air Refueling Wing executive officer administered the oath of office for his enlistment. Sergeant Alfeche will have 31 years of service exclusively in the Air Force Reserve.

## KUDOS



Lt. Col. Dana Difford, 939th Air Refueling Wing executive officer and president of the wing foundation here helps the Veterans's Administration June 24 make a public service announcement for this year's Combined Federal Campaign. The CFC gives federal government employees the opportunity to conveniently give to their favorite CFC charity through payroll deduction or a one time contribution. With 100 percent of the money donated through the CFC going to the charitable organization every dollar donated can make a difference. Among these CFC organizations is the 939th Air Refueling Wing Foundation that serve the members of our Reserve community.

## Fuel for Thought



(Left photo) Senior Airman Robert Ostrander, 64th Air Refueling Squadron inflight refueling technician, refuels one of four F-15s from the 142nd Fight Wing Air National Guard unit here during a routine training mission where 20 employers from the Park Rose Business District of Portland, Ore. got a first hand look at how the 939th Air Refueling Wing's mission works and supports other agencies like the ANG during an Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve orientation flight.

(Below Right) Guard and Reserve employers observe Airman Ostrander operating the boom as he refuels one of the ANG's F-15s. The purpose of this ESGR orientation flight is to increase awareness and support for the Reserve and Guard mission.

Photos by Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny



An employer observes Master Sgt. Bruce Clemmer, 64th ARS inflight refueling technician, in the military operating area of the KC-135 Stratotanker as he explains the process of inflight refueling. The ESGR representatives use the mandatory civilian employment database to contact employers of reservists and guardsmen to gain support of employers and to help them recognize the National Guard and Reserve as essential to the strength of our nation and the well-being of our communities.

